

# The Ham Arundel News

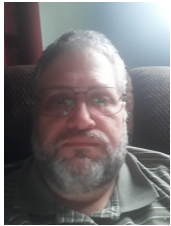


Providing Fellowship and Community Service through  
Amateur Radio since 1951



January 2022

44th Year of Publication



**Prez  
Sez**

I wanted to thank everyone for all of their hard work this year.

From our goals we had completed the following tasks:

- Weekly Emails on Tuesday
- Get an Estimate for a contractor to run back-office administration (Eddie S)
- Get a high-speed internet line installed
- Upgrade servers
- Remote access to Ham station
- Remote access to Repeaters

The remaining have been forwarded to our 2022 Goals.

A few new Goals have been added.

Currently, the 2022 goals are being drafted and will be presented at our January 6 meeting.

73 and Wishing all a Healthy and Happy New Year

Eric W3EAB

## Training

The next Technician training class will be starting Saturday, February 19. Classes begin at 1:15 PM via Zoom and may also be in person conditions permitting (masks required). Pre-registration is on the club website.

Note: The Technician training pool questions change on July 1.

## Editorial Note

In this issue, we have an article by Jason Rearick, N3YUG on RST reporting. Jason is the Net controller for *Grant's Elmer Net* which is held Wednesday nights on the N3PX repeater group. The net is heard on linked repeaters in Southern Maryland and the Northern Neck of Virginia. The article was the topic on December 1, 2021.

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**The Ham Arundel News and  
W3VPR.org are the official  
publications of  
The Anne Arundel Radio Club**

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to: [newsletter@w3vpr.org](mailto:newsletter@w3vpr.org)

**Mailing Address:**  
Anne Arundel Radio Club  
Post Office Box 308  
Davidsonville, MD 21035-0308

**Meetings:**

Business Meeting 1st Thursday at 7:30 PM  
Program/Activity 3rd Thursday at 7:30 PM  
Board Meeting - see calendar

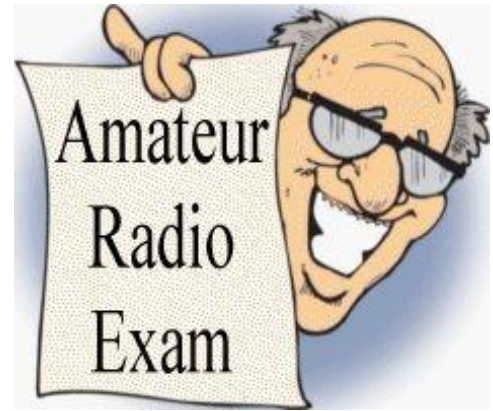
**Dues:**

\$30 per year, payable December 1st  
Discounts available for family members and  
students

World Wide Web: [www.w3vpr.org](http://www.w3vpr.org)

## Ham Arundel News Notes

Some items in the newsletter may duplicate items sent in the weekly emails from the President. The purpose of reporting them here is to assure that they are recorded for posterity.



## Test Schedules

**Pre-registration is suggested should the test session be canceled due to COVID restrictions.**

January 14 - 1:00 PM. Anne Arundel Radio Club, Davidsonville Family Recreation Center. Registration begins at 12:30 PM.  
<<https://www.w3vpr.org/node/353>>

January 21 - 9 AM. Laurel Amateur Radio Club, Women's Club of Laurel.  
<<https://www.larcmd.org/conc/index.php/exams-laurel>>

January 25 - 5:30 PM. National Electronics Museum, Linthicum, MD  
<<https://sites.google.com/view/mmarcveteam/p-re-registration>>

You must have a photo identification, FRN number, as well as copies and originals of your license, and CSCE if your license does not show your current license status. You must have a valid e-mail address associated with your FRN. The exams are free and the FCC fees are not yet in effect.

## Club News

### New Members

Sam Bryant, W3SCB, General  
Tom Kiely, [N/A], None

### January Meetings

The goals for 2022 will be discussed at the January membership meeting. Join the members either on Zoom or at the clubhouse to see what is being planned. Note: when going to the clubhouse, which is at the Davidsonville Family Recreation Center, you must wear a mask indoors. This is a county requirement. Masks must also be worn for exams.

The workshops resume at the end of January after a holiday hiatus.

### Informstion

I may have in the near future an ICOM IC-735 for sale. If anyone is interested let me know.

Kurt WA3TOY

### January Contesting

1 - Kids Day - Kids Day always runs from 1800 UTC through 2359 UTC.  
<<http://www.arrl.org/kids-day>>

8-9 - RTTY Roundup - Begins 1800 UTC Saturday, ends 2359 UTC Sunday  
<<http://www.arrl.org/rtty-roundup>>

15-17 - January VHF - Begins 1900 UTC Saturday, ends 0359 UTC Monday  
<<http://www.arrl.org/january-vhf>>

22-23 - North American QSO Party, SSB - Begins 1800 UTH Saturday ends 0559 UTH Sunday.

29-30 - Winter Field Day - Begins 1900 UTC Saturday ends 1900 UTC Sunday. All bands except WARC. <<https://www.winterfieldday.com>>



# Calendar

## Club

The meeting schedule for January - March is:

January 6, 2022 - Membership Meeting, 7:30 PM

January 13 - Board Meeting, 7:30 PM

January 20 - Membership Presentation Meeting,  
7:30,

February 3, 2022 - Membership Meeting, 7:30 PM

February 10 - Board Meeting, 7:30 PM

February 17 - Membership Presentation Meeting,  
7:30 PM

March 3 - Membership Meeting, 7:30 PM

March 10 - Board Meeting, 7:30 PM

March 17 - Membership Presentation Meeting,  
7:30 PM

Meetings are currently being held at the club shack with Zoom available to all interested members.

Invitations to the membership meetings will be emailed to the membership before the meetings. You must request meeting information from the President for Board meetings,

## Committee Meetings

For information about attending the meetings, contact the Rules Committee Chairman, or the Vice President for the Antenna Committee meetings. See the weekly emails for dates of committee meetings, usually the fourth Thursday of the month..

## MDC Section

January 21 - Section-wide Echolink Net, 8:00 PM, \*WASH\_DC\* Node 6154.

January 19 - Section HF Hospital Net, 1900L, 3820 kHz. If crowded, go + or - 5 kHz.



## How to give signal reports on repeaters and HF

by Jason Rearick, N3YUG

Giving good or accurate signal reports seems to be a lost art these days. With contests giving 59, 59, 59 reports no matter what, at some point that crept over to many other on the HF bands. Whether it is a lack of knowledge or fear of hurting someone's feelings with less than a 59 report, it is not helpful to those out there wanting to be sure their signal is as good as it can be.

The standard signal reporting method in Amateur Radio is the RST report. This stands for Readability-Signal Strength-Tone.

The one place this system does not work is on a repeaters. Readability would work, but you would be reporting the local repeaters Signal Strength instead of the other station's strength.

An FM repeater signal reporting is generally done by stating the perceived signal Quieting Level. Normally, one would find that a good operator would never give an RST signal report on FM repeaters. They would simply state it as Full Quieting, Partial Quieting, or Percent Quieting etc. The reported quieting level is indicative of the robustness and health of the established communication link. Other terms you may hear used are ...

**SCRATCHY:** if there is some noise mixed in with the other station's signal.

**FLUTTER or PICKET FENCING:** If a station's signal alternates between being strong and weak into the repeater.

**IN and OUT:** which means your signal is sometimes copyable, but not enough to maintain communications.

**Q5** signal report, this means you are perfectly readable. Q reports are not often used, and not understood by many, so it's best to not use them.

For HF signal reporting, we come back to the RST reporting systems.

R stands for Readability and is a 1-5 scale

S is Signal Strength using a scale of 1-9

T is Tone, and only used when operating CW or Morse Code

For signal strength, many use the S meter on their rig. Meter systems will vary from rig to rig, and even from band to band on some radios. At the same time doing this by ear alone, will vary from operator to operator. The best way to make the S reading is by ear, experience, and using the meter all together. Also, there is nothing more than a S reading of 9 in the RST scale....there is no such thing as a 59 +20 officially.

In contests or DX pileups it is common to just give a 59 signal report. This is to keep things moving as quickly as possible. In casual contacts it is good practice to give a true report. This lets the other station know how well they are getting to your location, and may clue them into a problem with their station. If I got a 29 signal report, I would know something was wrong with my audio, or RF getting into my signal. At the same time, don't get upset if a station you hear is 59 gives you a 53 report. It could be band conditions, difference in the power the two of you are running, antennas, or antenna orientation, at either end. Having a rig's pre-amp on can change some rig's S meter reading also. No preamp on 160-40M and maybe preamp 1 on 30-10M is a good guide, but personal preference is best.



## The RST system as listed on the ARRL web site, [Quick Reference Operating Aids](#):

### **Readability**

- 1 – Unreadable
- 2 – Barely readable, occasional words distinguishable.
- 3 – Readable with considerable difficulty.
- 4 – Readable with practically no difficulty.
- 5 – Perfectly readable.

### **Signal Strength**

- 1- Faint signals, barely perceptible.
- 2- Very weak signals.
- 3- Weak signals.
- 4- Fair signals.
- 5- Fairly good signals.
- 6- Good signals.
- 7- Moderately strong signals.
- 8- Strong signals.
- 9- Extremely strong signals.

### **Tone**

- 1- Sixty cycle a.c or less, very rough and broad.
- 2- Very rough a.c., very harsh and broad.
- 3- Rough a.c. tone, rectified but not filtered.
- 4- Rough note, some trace of filtering.
- 5- Filtered rectified a.c. but strongly ripple-modulated.
- 6- Filtered tone, definite trace of ripple modulation.
- 7- Near pure tone, trace of ripple modulation.
- 8- Near perfect tone, slight trace of modulation.
- 9- Perfect tone, no trace of ripple or modulation of any kind.

## Special Event Stations

### Amateur Radio Events

**Jan 2-Jan 31, 0000Z-2359Z, K3Y/0-9 +, 16th Annual Straight Key Month**, worldwide. SKCC - Straight Key Century Club. 3.550 7.055 14.050 21.050. Certificate & QSL. SKCC c/o Jeremy Downard - K8JAD, 511 W. Pottawatamie St., Tecumseh, MI 49286. K3Y/0 thru 9 plus KH6, KL7, KP4 and DX member stations in six WAC areas operating straight key, bug and cootie keys. QSL card confirms one QSO per area, up to 19 for all-area sweep. See URL for op sched/map, stats, etc. <https://www.skccgroup.com/k3y>

**Jan 15, 1800Z-2300Z, N9WH, "The 415" Amateur Radio Club**, Crystal Lake, IL. The 415 Amateur Radio Club. 7.250 14.250 146.415. QSL. The 415 Amateur Radio Club, 3208 Bay Rd, Crystal Lake, IL 60012. N9WH known as the "White House" Distinctive QSL. QSL information at [www.qrz.com/db/n9wh](http://www.qrz.com/db/n9wh)

**Jan 21-Jan 23, 0000Z-2359Z, K5D/KF5UPC, Silent Key Memorial Weekend**, Alice, TX. Coastal Band Digital Group and South Texas Amateur Radio Club. 14.265 7.265. Certificate. Pedro Saenz, Jr., 611 Schley, Alice, TX 78332. Remembering those who passed on. Our Silent Keys will never be forgotten. [pedrojr45@yahoo.com](mailto:pedrojr45@yahoo.com) or <https://m.facebook.com/784535814939833>

**Jan 22, 1000Z-1700Z, W9RH, MRAC 105th Anniversary**, Milwaukee, WI. Milwaukee Radio Amateurs' Club. 7.250 14.250 145.390. Certificate. MRAC Special Event, PO Box 26938, Milwaukee, WI 53226. Operating W9RH. (CQ MRAC). One of America's oldest amateur radio clubs celebrating 105 years of continuous operation. Visit our website for operating frequencies (HF, VHF, WIRES-X) and certificate information. Station will be operating from HRO-Milwaukee. For more information, visit W9RH.org. <https://www.w9rh.org>

**Jan 22-Jan 29, 1400Z-0700Z, W7Q, Quartzfest**, San Luis, AZ. Quartzfest. 7.277 +/- 20khz 14.285 +/- 20khz 28.415 +/- 20khz 14.076 +/- 20khz 7.074 +/- 20khz 28.074 +/- 20khz 21.74 +/- 20khz. Certificate. Tom Luther, 7690 W Derry rd, Kirkland, AZ 86332. <https://quartzfest.org>

### Historical

**Jan 1-Jan 9, 0000Z-2359Z, W2P, American Revolution - Battle of Princeton**. Trenton, NJ. Delaware Valley Radio Association. 14.250. Certificate & QSL. DVRA, P.O. Box 7024, Trenton, NJ 08628. Info at [www.w2zq.com](http://www.w2zq.com) or on [qrz.com](http://qrz.com). QSL with SASE. Certificate of Commission in the Continental Army Signal Corps for address label and \$5 payable to DVRA, mailed to DVRA, PO Box 7024, West Trenton NJ 08628. [www.w2zq.com](http://www.w2zq.com)

**Jan 29-Jan 31, 1600Z-0001Z, AG6AU, California Discovery of Gold**, Coloma, CA. El Dorado County Amateur Radio Club. 7.248 14.248 21.348 28.348. QSL. El Dorado County ARC, P.O. Box 451, Placerville, CA 95667. 174th anniversary of the discovery of gold in Coloma, California starting the 49'er gold rush. [edcarc.net](http://edcarc.net)

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### Military

**Jan 19-Jan 24, 0400Z-0359Z, WW2FLY, 80th Anniversary of the 8th Air Force SPECIAL EVENT**, Attica, NY. WWII Flying Fortress Amateur Radio Club. 1.900 3.850 7.180 14.250. Certificate & QSL. WWII Flying Fortress Amateur Radio Club, 3339 Stroh Rd, Attica, NY 14011. SSB and FT8 Check spotting networks to find us on HF More info at [www.qrz.com/db/WW2FLY](http://www.qrz.com/db/WW2FLY)

### Scouting

**Jan 15, 1400Z-2000Z, W1M, WHOA weekend, Scouts BSA**, Russell, MA. Western Mass Council, Scouts BSA. 7.190 10.115 14.060 14.290. QSL. Tom Barker, WA1HRH, 329 Faraway Road, Whitefield, NH 03598. Camp/outdoor program that introduces young people to various season related activities including outdoor skills and some STEM activities. Paper logging, eqsl and sase for qsl card.

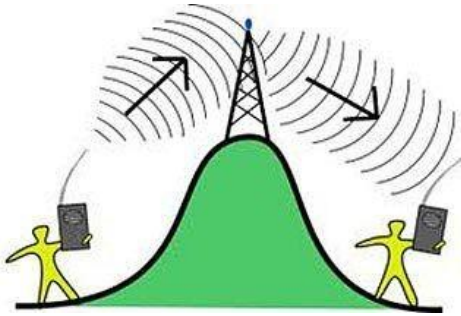
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# BASIC ELECTRICAL EXAM

1. What color is the green grounding screw? \_\_\_\_\_
2. When hooking up a 200v heater, you must use 220v wire?  
\_\_\_ TRUE \_\_\_ FALSE
3. Electricity will leak out of pipes if they are not connected with rain tight fittings? \_\_\_ TRUE \_\_\_ FALSE
4. To trip a breaker, you must stick out your foot as it walks by. \_\_\_ TRUE \_\_\_ FALSE
5. When dealing with conduit the O.D. must be larger than the I.D. or the hole will be on the outside. \_\_\_ TRUE \_\_\_ FALSE
6. A keyless fixture cannot be unlocked \_\_\_ TRUE \_\_\_ FALSE
7. A breaker reads "20" on the handle. This means that it can only be tripped 20 times before it wears out. \_\_\_ TRUE \_\_\_ FALSE
8. If you plug a 110v appliance into a 120v line, 10 extra volts will leak out and make a mess. \_\_\_ TRUE \_\_\_ FALSE
9. The gauge # of a wire tells you how many outlets you can plug into it. \_\_\_ TRUE \_\_\_ FALSE
10. When pulling 4/0 wire thru a 1/2" PVC conduit, the "PVC" stands for "Pipe Very Crowded" \_\_\_ TRUE \_\_\_ FALSE
11. An OHM is a Hindu measurement of voltage \_\_\_ TRUE \_\_\_ FALSE
12. A Flush Mounted device may only be hooked up to a toilet.  
\_\_\_ TRUE \_\_\_ FALSE
13. High voltage wire is only used in the upper stories of a building and low voltage wires is only used in the lower floors and basement. \_\_\_ TRUE \_\_\_ FALSE
14. If you have a molded case breaker, the mold can be removed with soap and warm water. \_\_\_ TRUE \_\_\_ FALSE
15. Electrical Inspectors are also known as \_\_\_\_\_

# AARC REPEATER FREQUENCIES

Davidsonville	Millersville	Glen Burnie	Annapolis
147.105+		147.075+	
223.880-	224.560-		
444.400+			442.300+



**PL 107.2 is active for all repeaters.**  
**The 147.105, 147.075 and 444.400 repeaters are frequently linked. Please allow 2-3 seconds after the courtesy beep to allow for the link to reset.**  
**Members can also use Echolink, K3HRT-R, after being added.**

## Visiting AARC

Visitors are welcome at all meetings and on all nets.

Meetings are held in the Clubhouse at the Davidsonville Family Recreation Center, Queen Anne Bridge and Waysons Roads off Rt. 214 near Davidsonville, MD.

For en-route directions make contact on the 147.105 repeater.

## AARC Service Frequencies



**When assisting in community events, Field Days or races, AARC uses 146.430 MHz as the primary communications frequency. In the event the frequency is busy, the backup is 146.475 MHz.**

## Amateur Radio NETS

Day	Name	Frequency (MHz)	Time
Daily	Baltimore Traffic Net	146.670	1830
Daily	Maryland Emergency Phone Net	3.820	1800
Daily	Maryland-DC-Delaware Traffic Net	3.643	1900 and 2200
Daily	Maryland Slow Net	3.563	1930
Weekdays	The "Holly Net"	147.105+ PL107.2 147.075+ PL107.2 440.400+ PL107.2 (K3HRT-R)	0700
Sunday	AA County ARES Net	146.805- PL107.2 (KA2JAI-R)	2000
Sunday	Columbia Group Net	147.135+ PL156.7 147.390+ PL156.7 448.275- PL156.7 448.275-PL156.7	2100
Sunday (1st)	REACT Net	146.805- PL107.2 (KA2JAI-R)	1930
Monday	Calvert ARA Net	145.350- PL156.7	1930
Monday	Maryland Mobileers Net	146.805- PL107.2 (KA2JAI-R)	1930
Monday	Queen Anne's ARC Net	146.940- PL107.2	2000
Monday	Delmarva Amateur Radio Enhancement Net	146.820- PL156.7	2100
Tuesday	Kent Amateur Radio Society 2-meter Net	147.375+ PL156.7	1900
Tuesday	PG-ARES Training Net	145.230- PL110.9	1900
Tuesday	All Things Digital Net	147.105+ PL107.2 147.075+ PL107.2	2000

		440.400+ PL107.2 (K3HRT-R)	
Tuesday (3rd)	Anne Arundel - CERT	442.300+ PL107.2	1900
Tuesday (except 3rd)	Easton ARS Weekly Net	147.045+ PL107.2 (W3GAC-R)	2000
Wednesday	Elmer Net	145.350- PL156.7 146.390- PL114.8	1930
Wednesday	AARC Talk Net	147.105+ PL107.2 147.075+ PL107.2 440.400+ PL107.2 (K3HRT-R)	2000
Wednesday (2nd)	AERO 440 Net	449.575- PL123.1	2000
Wednesday (4th)	AERO 140 Net	147.240+ PL123.1	2000
Wednesday (odd)	Laurel Bi-weekly Club Net	147.225+ PL 156.7	2030
Wednesday (after 3rd Mon.)	Maryland HF Hospital Net	3.820+/-	1900
Friday (3rd)	Maryland-DC Section Net	*WASH_DC* 146.805- PL107.2 KA2JAI-R	2000

Please be advised, we have heard that some Echolink nodes to local repeaters are down, or limited to hours of nets. The N3PX repeater in Barstow has issues at the moment as it can receive input but is unable to repeat transmissions except to the linked repeater network stations.